Assistive Technology Ideas for Studying and Organization

STRATEGIES & MODIFICATIONS

- Reduce clutter on desk
- Clear, simple directions, check comprehension
- Prioritize tasks with time suggestions
- Use peers/cross-age tutors/volunteers
- Attach assignments, schedule, checklist, timetable, etc. to desk
- Allow separate settings for tests/assignments
- Have student arrive early to go over day's plan, preview materials or tasks
- Provide daily and weekly assignment sheets
- Use alternative page set-ups
- Model the activity or provide examples
- Break information into steps
- Flashlight or light pointer
- Home texts/materials for preview/review
- Seating needs & position
- Emphasize critical information
- Teach study skills and self-monitoring
- Use cooperative learning groups
- Provide guided practice
- Routines for handing in work, heading papers, etc.
- Provide essential fact list
- Teach key direction words
- Review and practice in real life situations
- Plan and teach for generalization
- Provide sequential directions (label as first, second, last, etc.)
- Use physical cues/gestures
- Use supervised breaks, if necessary
- Provide an adjusted timetable
- Use a variety of instructional strategies
- Posters
- Write oral instructions down and keep in same place

LIGHT-TECH

- Organizers for materials (drawers, bins, etc.)
- Organizers for desk
- Highlight key words and instructions
- Use a "Notebook Control System"
- Post It notes/flags
- Highlighter tape/pens and erasable pens
- NCR paper for notes
- Tape record instructions
- Use supplementary , multi-modality materials
- Use vocabulary files, cards, or books
- Pre-label, highlight, punch & collate handouts
- Pictorial schedule/assignments
- Color-coded filing system (index tabs, folders, notebooks, book covers, etc.)
- Voice output reminders for assignments, study, steps of task, schedule, etc.
- Photocopy information ahead of time
- Study sheets to organize material
- Change lighting (light on desk, back to window)
- Use a light box
- Book holders
- Prepare summary of important facts with blanks to be filled in by student during lesson
- Use overlays/acetate on text pages
- List of confusing words
- Business cards/mailing labels
- Combination analog/digital watches
- Phone dialers
- Talking clocks
- Day-timers, schedulers, and planners
- Visual strategies
- Elimination of extraneous noise
- Headphone with white noise or music

HIGHER-TECH

- Recorded material i.e. books on tape
- Tape lectures with number coded index
- Mini pocket/key chain recorders
- Portable electronic organizers, date books, etc.
- Voice output reminders for assignments, multiple-step tasks, etc.
- Digital recorder/voice organizers
- Videotape lesson for later review

COMPUTER/SOFTWARE

- Software for manipulation of objects, & concept development
- Software for organization of ideas & studying
- Simplifying desktop with shortcuts, etc.
- Calendar/schedule making software
- Outline in word processors
- Use of word processor templates
- Webbing, mind mapping software
- Use of word processor forms
- Study strategies using software CBSS http://cate.uoregon.edu
- Handhelds (Palm or Pocket PC)
- Personal amplification system
- Smart Board
- Classroom sound field system